

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8. (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a an elongated shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae, said shank being substantially arc shaped;

an angled traverse segment ~~connected with the shank and~~ of said shank which is configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion of the shank disposed on the angled traverse segment defining a bore configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper half of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower half of the patient's auditory canal;

wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, further comprising:
a flexible signal conductor disposed in the broadened portion.

Claim 11. (Canceled).

Claim 12. (Currently Amended): Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a an elongated shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae, said shank being substantially arc shaped;

an angled traverse segment of the shank which is connected with the shank and is configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion of the shank which is disposed on the angled traverse segment configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper region of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower region of the patient's auditory canal,

wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal, ~~and~~

wherein the auditory canal tab defines a bore configured to hold the signal conductor; and

wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended): Earpiece according to Claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein the auditory canal tab has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended): Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the shank comprises a first shank and a second shank connecting with the angled traverse segment and

extending in an opposite direction to the first shank, the second shank being configured to follow the outer edge of the patient's cavum conchae.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 14, wherein the second shank is adapted to extend to a location behind the patient's antitragus.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the at least one of the shank, the angled traverse segment, and the broadened portion is adapted for use with cochlear implant microphones, CI BTE processors, and BTE tinnitus systems.

Claims 17-29 (Canceled).